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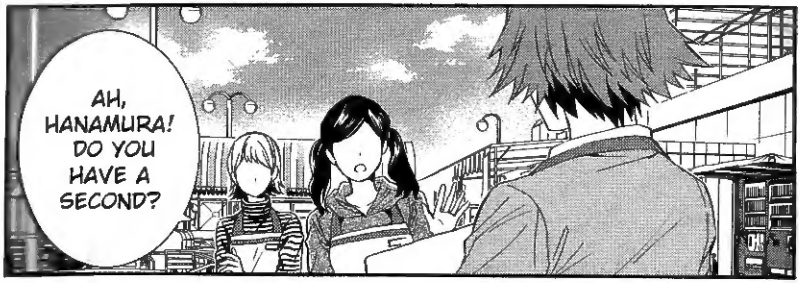

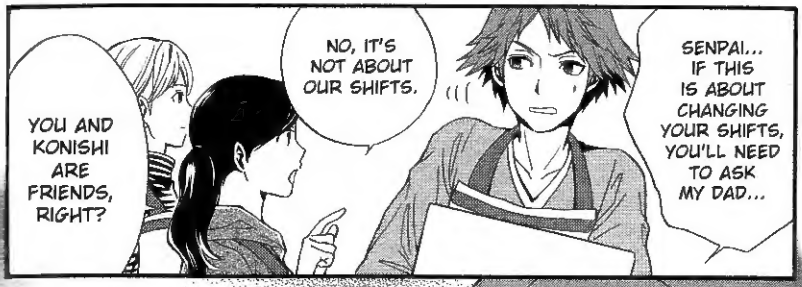
YOU AND KONISHI ARE FRIENDS, RIGHT?
NO, IT'S NOT ABOUT OUR SHIFTS.
SENPAI... IF THIS IS ABOUT CHANGING YOUR SHIFTS, YOU'LL NEED TO ASK MY DAD...

#05
IS IT TRUE THAT SHE'S IN TROUBLE WITH HER PARENTS BECAUSE KONISHI LIQUORS IS LOSING THEIR IMPORTANT CUSTOMERS TO JUNES?
HUH...?

04/12 TUES
SPLASH

.....
IF FAMILIES IN THE SHOPPING DISTRICT ARE HAVING A HARD TIME...
I FEEL BAD FOR THEM, SOMEHOW...
KONISHI-SENPAI HASN'T EVER SAID MUCH ABOUT HER PARENTS, SO COULD THAT REALLY BE TRUE?
BUT WHAT SHE SAID THAT ONE TIME...
A LIKE-MINDED COMRADE.

wobble wobble~
STEADY...
NOW...
CLOSE ONE...
SHOULDN'T BE THINKING AND PEDALING ON A RAINY DAY...
FLINCH
WHOA?!
SLIP
WHAM
WH-WHOA?!

WHY'VE YOU BEEN DEAD SINCE THIS MORNING?
Homeroom's about to start~
?
JUST DON'T ASK, PLEASE...
UGH, JUST...
CRRRRAAACK
CRUNCH

IT IS WITH GREAT RELUCTANCE THAT I'VE GOTTA INTRODUCE THE NEW TRANSFER STUDENT.
THIS POOR SCHMUCK GOT CHASED OUT OF THE FESTERING SORE THAT IS THE CITY AND MOVED OUT HERE TO THE COUNTRYSIDE.
I'M NARUKAMI YU. NICE TO MEET YOU ALL.
From the city, huh? So he's like you, right?
OH, UH... YEAH.
FROM THE CITY...

COME TO THINK OF IT, WHEN I HIT THE TELEPHONE POLE THIS MORNING IT SOUNDED LIKE SOMETHING BROKE...
Oh!
I WONDER WHAT THAT WAS...
SNAP
I WONDER IF THE CULTURE SHOCK WILL GET TO HIM, TOO.
SHE... SHE'LL KICK ME TO DEATH...!!
slam
WHAT THE HELL DID YOU DO?!
IT WAS THE "TRIAL OF THE DRAGON" DVD I BORROWED FROM SATONAKA!

AH, THERE YOU ARE!
ACK!
OH YEAH! AND WHAT ABOUT THAT OTHER THING...?!
HEY~! WHAT'S UP? YOU CAME UP TO THE THIRD YEARS' FLOOR...
MORNING, KONISHI -SENPAI.
phew...
AH!
A LETTER ...?
I WANTED TO GIVE YOU THIS.
shff...

YOU DIDN'T SEEM VERY INTERESTED IN TAKING THE PHOTO, BUT...
I THINK IT CAME OUT REALLY NICE ANYWAY, DON'T YOU THINK?
BESIDES, HAVING A CONVERSATION BETWEEN JUST THE TWO OF US AT SCHOOL THAT NO ONE ELSE KNOWS ABOUT...
SEEMS KIND OF SPECIAL.
SO YOU BROUGHT IT TO ME NOW INSTEAD OF AT WORK? THAT'S NICE OF YOU.
I WANTED TO SHOW IT YOU AS SOON AS I COULD.
YOU'VE GOT A SHIFT TOMOR-ROW, RIGHT?
I'LL PROBABLY BE THERE TOO.
YEAH, I DO. OKAY!
See ya!

I'M WORRIED ABOUT WHAT'S GOING ON WITH HER FAMILY, BUT...
I'LL WAIT UNTIL SHE'S READY TO TALK TO ME ABOUT IT.
"SAMEGAWA"? ISN'T THAT RIDICULOUSLY CLOSE BY?
The body was of a local television station's...
The body of a woman was found around noon today in the vicinity of the Samegawa river in the town of Inaba.
稲羽市T
AND "HANGING FROM THE ANTENNA"? WHAT KIND OF INCIDENT IS THIS...?
I GUESS DANGEROUS THINGS HAPPEN IN QUIET COUNTRY TOWNS, TOO...

04/13 WED
WHOOSH
WH-WHOA...
I CAN'T STO-
ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
YEAH, YOU REALLY HELPED ME OUT THERE.
THANKS! UH...
CRASH!

I'M HANAMURA YOSUKE. NICE TO MEET YA!
YEAH, NICE TO MEET YOU TOO.

OH RIGHT, YOU'RE THE TRANSFER STUDENT!
IT WAS "NARUKAMI", RIGHT?

AW CRAP, WE'RE LATE!
DO YOU WANT TO RIDE ON THE BACK? THIS THING'S PRETTY SQUEAKY, THOUGH...
...NO, I'M GOOD.

THEN YOU'D BETTER RUN.

I MOVED HERE FROM THE CITY TOO, ABOUT HALF A YEAR AGO.
MY PARENTS GOT PROMOTED AND SO NOW THEY MANAGE THIS LOCATION.
WELL, IT CAN'T ALL BE BECAUSE OF JUNES, CAN IT?
THE SHOPS HAVE BEEN STEADILY CLOSIN- AH!
HALF A YEAR, HUH? A LOT'S CHANGED AROUND THE SHOPPING DISTRICT SINCE THEN...
?
I GUESS NOT...

IT'S SENPAI!
SORRY, JUST A SEC.
YAKISOBA
HEY, GOOD WORK! YOU DON'T LOOK LIKE YOU'RE FEELING TOO WELL, THOUGH...
HEY~! ISN'T IT FINALLY YOUR DAY OFF, HANA-CHAN? TRYING TO BOOST BUSINESS BY COMING HERE ANYWAY?
Is she Yosuke's girlfriend?
AUGH, NOW I'M OFFENDED!
If only that were true...
BUT SERIOUSLY, YOU LOOK PRETTY UNHAPPY...
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?
IT'S NOTHING, I'M JUST A LITTLE TIRED.
YOU KNOW YOU CAN TELL ME IF ANYTHING'S BUGGING YOU, RIGHT? BECAUSE I...
I'M FINE, REALLY. THANKS, THOUGH.

AHH, JEEZ. WHY DID I LEAVE EARLY YESTERDAY?
.....
KONISHI-SENPAI...?
?
OH! ARE YOU THAT TRANSFER STUDENT?
SINCE YOU'RE BOTH CITY BOYS, ARE YOU TWO GETTING ALONG?
IT'S RARE FOR ME TO SEE HIM HANGING OUT WITH OTHER GUYS.
TH-THAT'S NOT TRUE!

HEY... SENPA...!
HE CAN GET NOSY SOMETIMES, THOUGH, SO YOU SHOULD JUST SAY IT TO HIS FACE IF HE STARTS TO GET ANNOYING.
gulp
THIS GUY DOESN'T HAVE MANY FRIENDS, SO MAKE SURE YOU GET ALONG WITH HIM, OKAY?
AHAHA! I KNOW, I'M JUST KIDDING.
Ahh, screw this!
NAH, HE'S A GOOD GUY.

COUNTRY LIFE MUST SEEM PRETTY BORING AT FIRST, HUH?
THE ONLY KARAOKE IS IN A PLACE ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN THAT LOOKS LIKE A SNACK STORE, THERE'S NOT A SINGLE BRAND CLOTHES SHOP AROUND...
IF HIGH SCHOOL KIDS LIKE US WANT SOMETHING TO DO, WE CAN EITHER GET PART TIME JOBS OR JOIN SCHOOL CLUBS.
SOUNDS LIKE THERE REALLY ISN'T MUCH TO DO, THEN.
RIGHT? AND ON TOP OF THAT, THERE'S ONLY ONE TRAIN EVERY HOUR.

HE'S A PRETTY CALM KIND OF GUY, ISN'T HE?
HE DOESN'T SAY MUCH BUT IT'S NOT A TENSE KIND OF QUIET EITHER...
AND IT SEEMS LIKE STAYING OUT HERE IN THE COUNTRY DOESN'T GIVE HIM MUCH CULTURE SHOCK, REALLY?
BUT SINCE YOU DON'T SEEM TO IT I DON'T THINK IT'S TOO BAD
I DON'T HEAR MUCH COMPLAINING FROM YOU, ANYWAY
...IT'S FINE HERE. I DON'T HAVE ANY PROBLEMS
WE'LL GIVE IT A FEW DAYS I'LL GET THE FEEL FOR THE GAP BETWEEN HERE AND THE CITY SUJIN

Have you heard about 'The Midnight Channel'?
They say if you look into a turned-off TV alone at midnight when it rains, you'll see your soulmate!
SHHH
TV
...HOW STUPID.
"YOUR SOULMATE"? SERIOUSLY, YOU...
SHAA...
I'M SICK OF ANYTHING AND EVERY-THING!
SICK OF JUNES...
AND SICK OF THIS TOWN...!

SHAA...
A... A PICTURE?
SERIOUSLY?!
AH...
IT'S GONE...

WAS THAT MY SOULMATE, THEN?
BUT IT'S WEIRD THAT SHE LOOKED SO SCARED....
.....
THAT WAS A GIRL... WASN'T IT?
SOMEHOW, SHE LOOKED A LOT LIKE KONISHI-SENPAI, TOO.
04/14 THURS
SHTTH
HEY, EXCUSE ME!

SEEMS LIKE SHE'S NOT HERE TODAY AFTER ALL.
RIGHT, THANKS.
HEY, HAS ANYONE HERE SEEN SAKI AROUND?
FOR SOME REASON, I'M REALLY WORRIED ABOUT THIS...
THE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT THAT FOUND THAT YAMANO ANNOUNCER'S DEAD BODY...
I HEARD IT WAS KONISHI!
HEY, DID YOU HEAR?!
MAYBE IT WASN'T SENPAI AFTER ALL...

M-MAYBE? EVERYONE'S SAYING IT'S TRUE, THOUGH...
SENPAI WAS...
WAH!
IT WAS KONISHI-SENPAI?!
THAT... IT'S JUST A RUMOR, ISN'T IT?
THE ONE WHO DISCOVERED THE BODY?!
THEN YOU SAW SOMETHING TOO, HANAMURA?
HUH?

YOU MUST'VE IMAGINED IT... RIGHT? MAYBE IT WAS A DREAM.
BUT ABOUT WHAT YOU SAID ABOUT HEARING A "STRANGE VOICE" AND "GETTING SUCKED INTO YOUR TV"...

HOW THE HELL SHOULD I KNOW...?
BUT WE SAW THE SAME GIRL...? DOES THAT MEAN OUR SOULMATES ARE THE SAME PERSON?

...SPEAKING OF, MY FAMILY WAS TALKING ABOUT BUYING A BIGGER TV!

"MY TV WAS TOO SMALL, SO I COULDN'T FIT INSIDE IT"... DOESN'T THAT SOUND WEIRDLY REALISTIC?
BUT EVEN IF IT WAS JUST A DREAM, IT MAKES FOR A GOOD STORY, DOESN'T IT?
WHAT IF IT WAS BIGGER...?

LET'S GO LOOK, LET'S GO LOOK!
REALLY? LOTS OF PEOPLE HAVE BEEN UPGRADING THEIR SETS LATELY...
IF YOU WANT, WE COULD GO LOOK AT THE ONES WE HAVE AT JUNES? WE JUST GOT A SHIPMENT OF NEW MODELS THIS MONTH.
OH YEAH, NARUKAMI...
WAS YOUR FAMILY THINKING ABOUT UPGRADING THEIR TV...
FOR EXAMPLE, DID THEY WANT A LESS EXPENSIVE MODEL? I CAN ADVISE YOU.
WELL THEN, SATONAKA...
WHAT KIND OF TV WAS YOUR FAMILY THINKING OF BUYING?

HUH...
WHA...?!
WHAT THE HELL IS HE DOING...?!
.....
HUH? WHAT'S WRONG, HANAMURA?
HIS... HIS ARM... IT'S STUCK...?

...I THINK I CAN FIT MORE INSIDE.
AMAZING! THAT'S QUITE THE MAGIC TRICK!
WHOA...
SLIDE
Y-YOU MORON, STOP!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?!
GASP
WHAT THE HELL IS EVEN GOING ON?!
NO ONE WOULD WILLINGLY PUT THEIR HEAD IN THERE!

HUH?! WAIT- BUT WE'VE GOT A GUY STUCK HALFWAY INSIDE A TV HERE!!
THERE'S CUSTOMERS COMING!
CUSTOMERS!
CUSTOMERS!!
WHAM
HEY, WHOA... WAIT...!
WH- WH- WHAT SHOULD WE DO? WHAT SHOULD WE DO?!
UWAAH!!

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